

I am a landowner and rancher who lives 30 miles from the proposed uranium site. My wells use the Madison and Minnelusa aquifers and other shallow wells to support our cattle and our own water consumption. If Azarga is allowed to use this water supply there is no guarantee that it could sustain 10 years if in situ mining and our wells. This is the only sustainable water we have for livestock. Livestock is the economic driver in Western South Dakota. If you take our water, you risk a much larger industry for South Dakota in exchange for 10 years of uranium mining.

Second, and most important is. What if the chemical laden, radioactive water that is injected back down in these wells eventually leaks.

On the EPA's website is states: "Regardless of the use of Class V wells, owners and operators are responsible for protecting underlying ground water from contamination" —

Who will be at the site to ensure that the water injected into Class V wells meets ClassV standards? Where is the guarantee that the chemical laden water can even be filtered to acceptable ClassV standards. Radioactive minerals should not be allowed in Class V wells.

And if Azarga goes bankrupt and they don't cap the wells, what happens?

Will there be continued monitoring when Azarga is done with the site and the wells are capped? NO! Who monitors these sites 20 or 30 years from now to know if the wells crack and leaking occurs? And IF these wells leak to our water supply there is no restoring it back to a safe drinking water state which I am sure you are well aware of. The entire western half of South Dakota relies on the Minnelusa and Madison for its water supply. We can't haul water from anywhere else if the Madison or Minnelusa gets contaminated. Please don't risk the tourism economy and the livestock economy and the American people's livelihoods of Western South Dakota for a foreign company.

Facts:

<http://projects.propublica.org/graphics/underground-injection-wells>. From 2008 to 2010 there have been 6,723 that have tested positive for major leaking and 60,467 wells with violations. And 859 unauthorized injections!!!

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)